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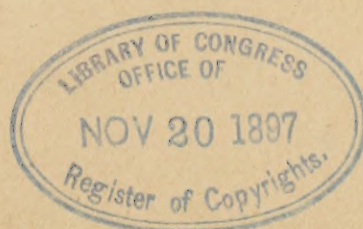
THE
Independent
Cutter.

A Scientific Work
on
Cutting Garments
According to a Simple
Method.

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Arranged by

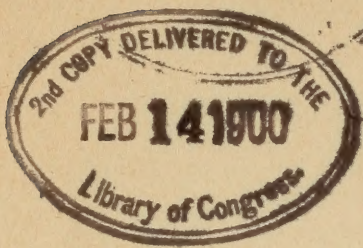
Ida W. Mason

July 19-1897.



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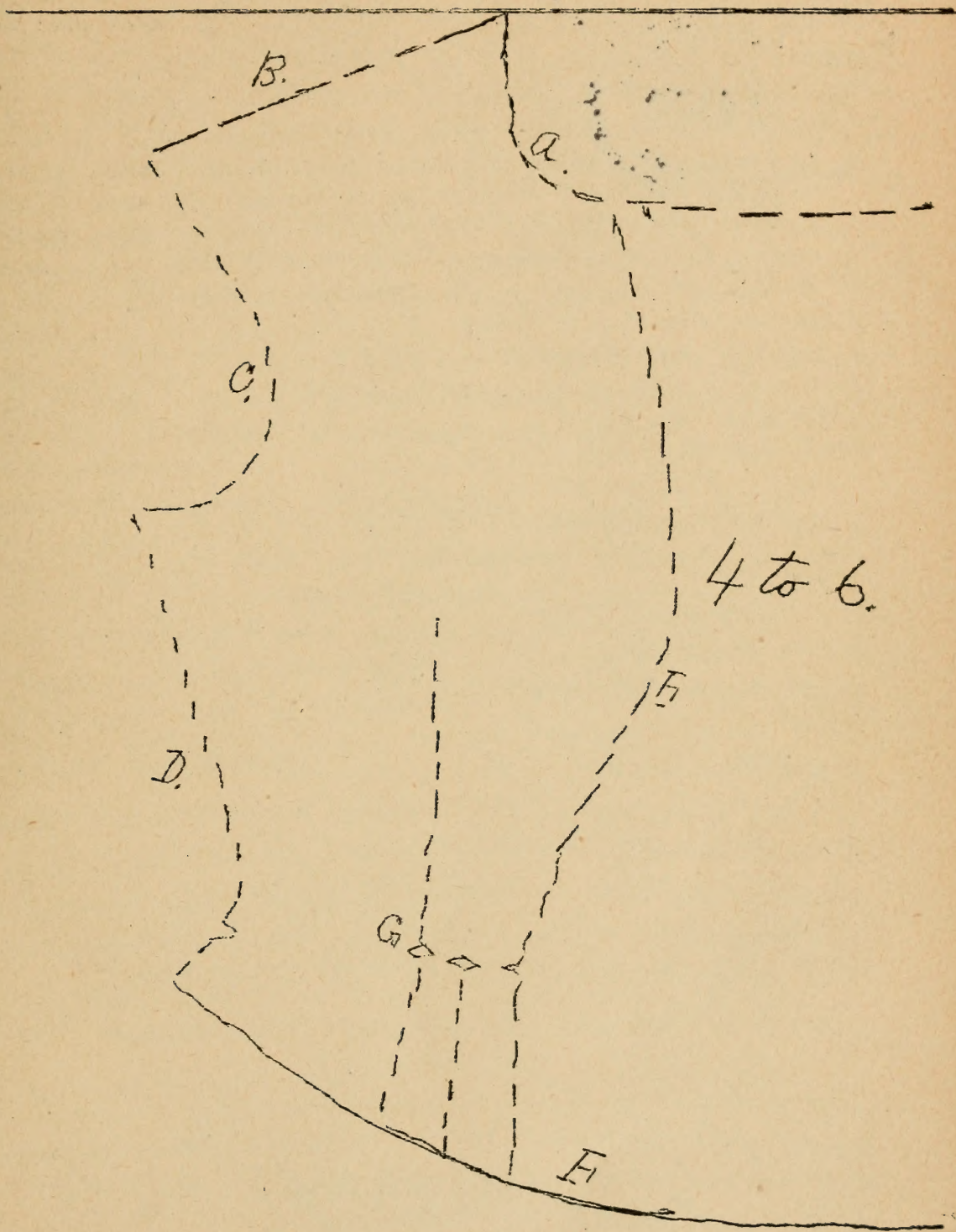
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Read This Page Carefully.

I'm teaching how to cut different garments. A fitted lining is necessary as a guide. This pattern may be of common lining, and must be cut and fitted by an experienced person. It must have a waist line, and a front form. The first may be arranged - if the dressmaker does not give a waist line, - by tying a cord around the waist as far down as it will naturally go, marking the line thus made, by a basting fastened between the seams. The pattern may be separated without severing the thread.

The front form may be arranged by pinning the front of the pattern, while on the person, in the shape of a seam so as to fit the form.

The outline thus made by the pins, is marked with a thread, and is called the front form; marking the place for the hook and eyes, or buttons and button holes.

In putting any garment together, be sure the waist lines are perfectly even while basting the seams, otherwise the seams will twist, and the gown be decidedly crooked.

Waist Full at the Neck.

A waist full at the neck is cut by placing the lining on the material with the front form, from four to six inches from selvedge edge or fold of the material, if the gown is opened down the front, the selvedge is used, if opened somewhere else, the fold is necessary for the center of the front.

The lower edge of the lining, or E, meet to the open end of the cloth, as it cuts more economically.

The front of the lining above the darts must be stretched out to its fullest extent regardless of the wrinkles made in the lining, as the outside material of a full waist is always shorter, than the lining, but not narrower. The material is then cut on A, B, C, D, and E to F and up F. to A, unless the garment is not to be opened down the front.

The back of any garment is cut on the same principle as the front, altho the back, need not, necessarily be cut as the front.

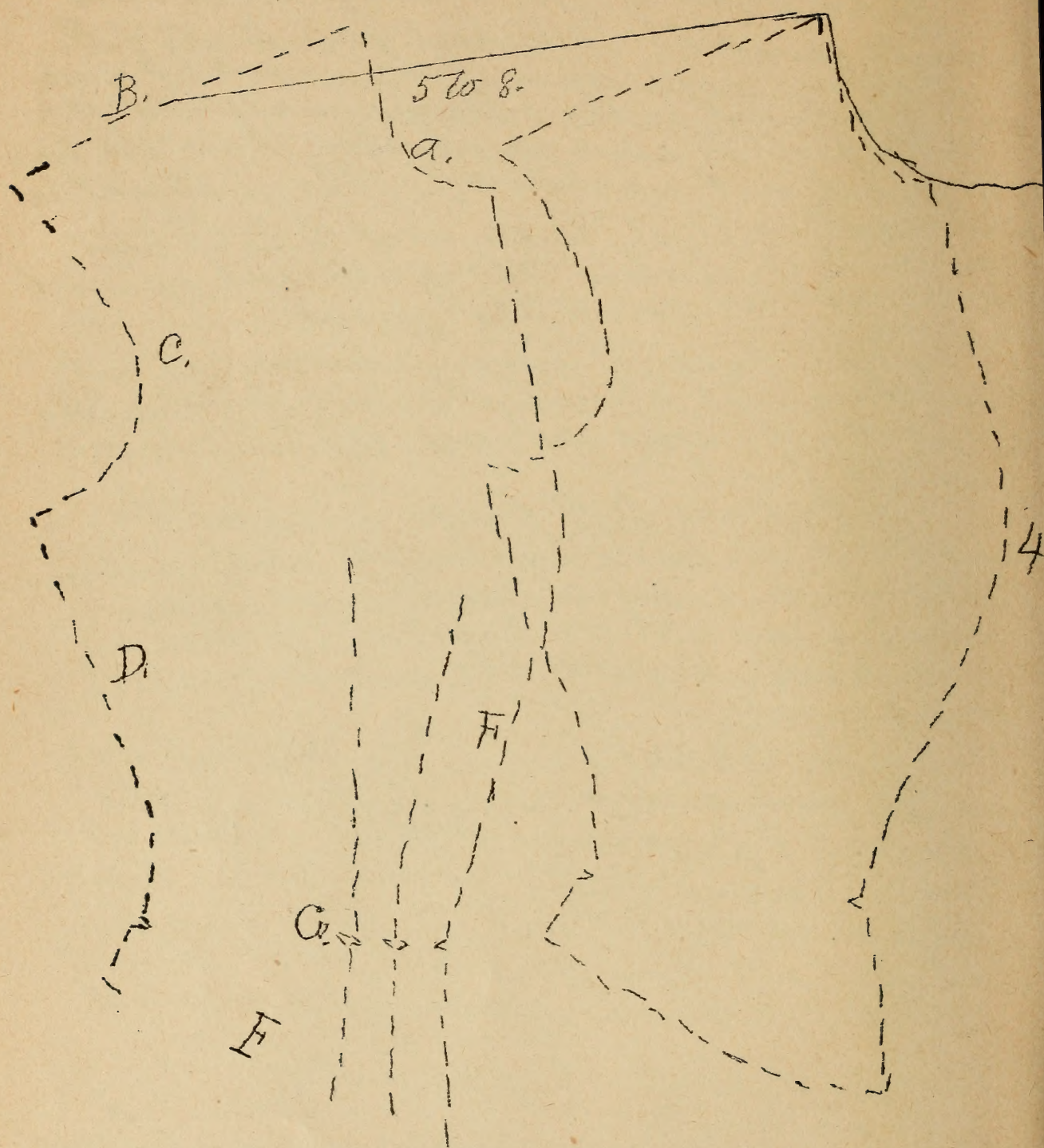
There are full backs without the under arm piece included, and again, the back, curved back, and under arm may all be basted together as one piece, before the outside material is cut.

The Darts in the Front are, with few exceptions, basted in the lining before any of these fronts are cut. A very large person may have the last dart cut in the material, but it can be fitted just as well without and is much more stylish.

Read Carefully.

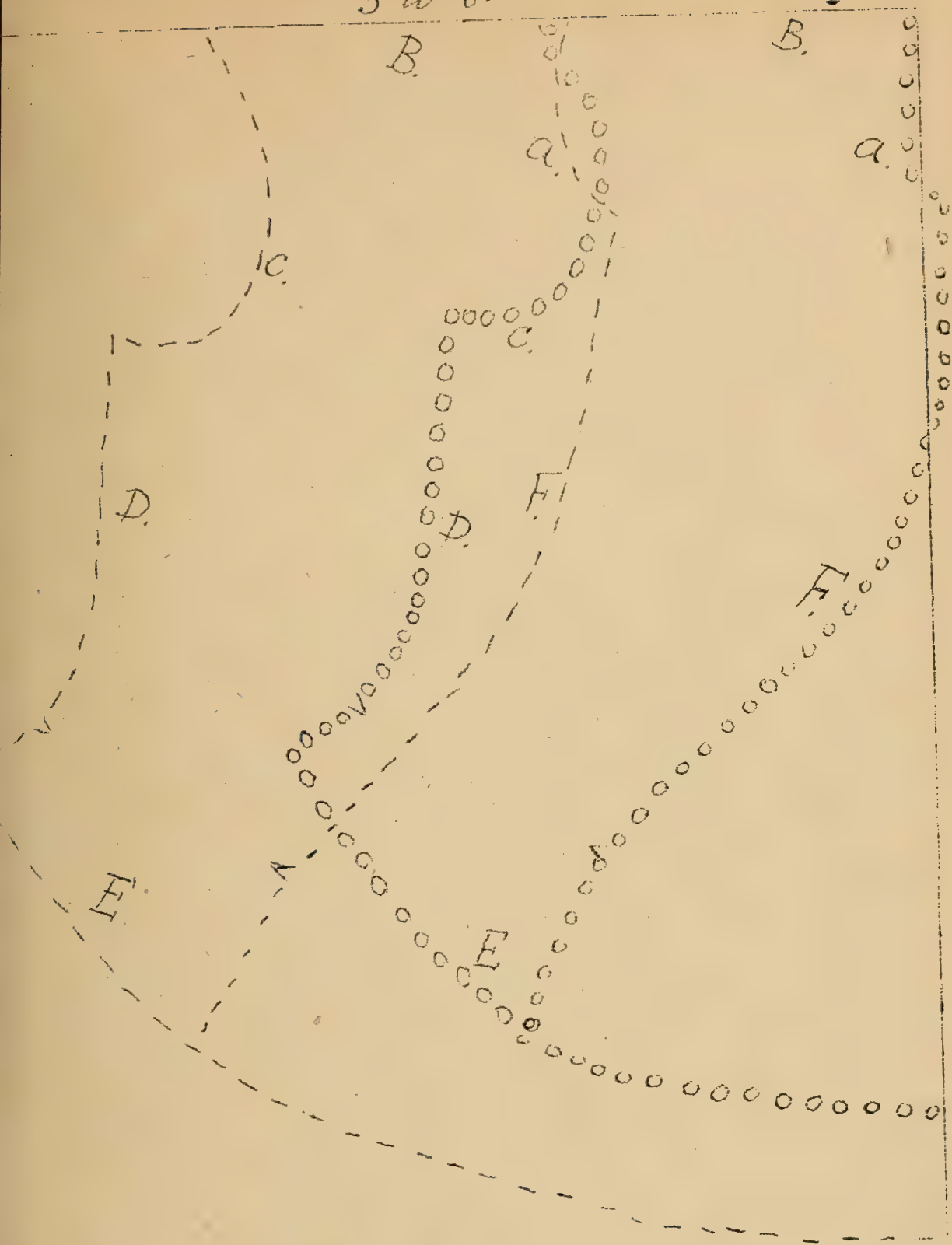
These directions may always be carried out, regardless of the seasons changing styles.

The difference being, in the fullness in waists, sleeves, ruffles, and the shape and size of revers, and collarettes; also the adjusting of the same and all trimmings.



5 to 8.

6



Waist Full at the Neck and on The Shoulder.

The lining is placed on the material as for a full neck, and the neck cut out as in the full neck diagram, for the full shoulder. The upper point of B. must be drawn back to the straight edge of the cloth, not above or below it, but exactly on it all the way from B. to eight inches. Then if the fullness is only 2, to 3 or 4 inches, cut the upper half of the shoulder of the same, for the material, as the lower half, but from the center of the seam, cut straight whatever point the fullness is desired to begin at, always to where the upper point of shoulder seam was before it was changed back from the starting point. The rest of the material is cut as the lining.

Lower Part of Waist to Fit any Yoke.

The yoke in the cut is one of the many shapes. First decide upon the style of the yoke and place the highest point of the yoke a seam below the upper edge of the cloth as far back from the edge of the material as desired; or from four to six inches.

The material is cut the shape of the yoke from B. to C. the distance across the back or front, measuring from the armhole to the center of back or front.

The little "c" indicates the highest point of the yoke. A point C. seam above and directly opposite the lowest point of the yoke is made with a chalk, either on the fold, or on the selvedge edge. An even slope is then made from a

seam above the highest point of the yoke, to a seam above the point on the material opposite the lowest point of the yoke, imitating the shape of the skirt between these two points, which will be a more gradual slant or slope, governed by the shape of the yoke. The lower point of the waist is cut on lines A, B, C, and D.

Fuller Waist

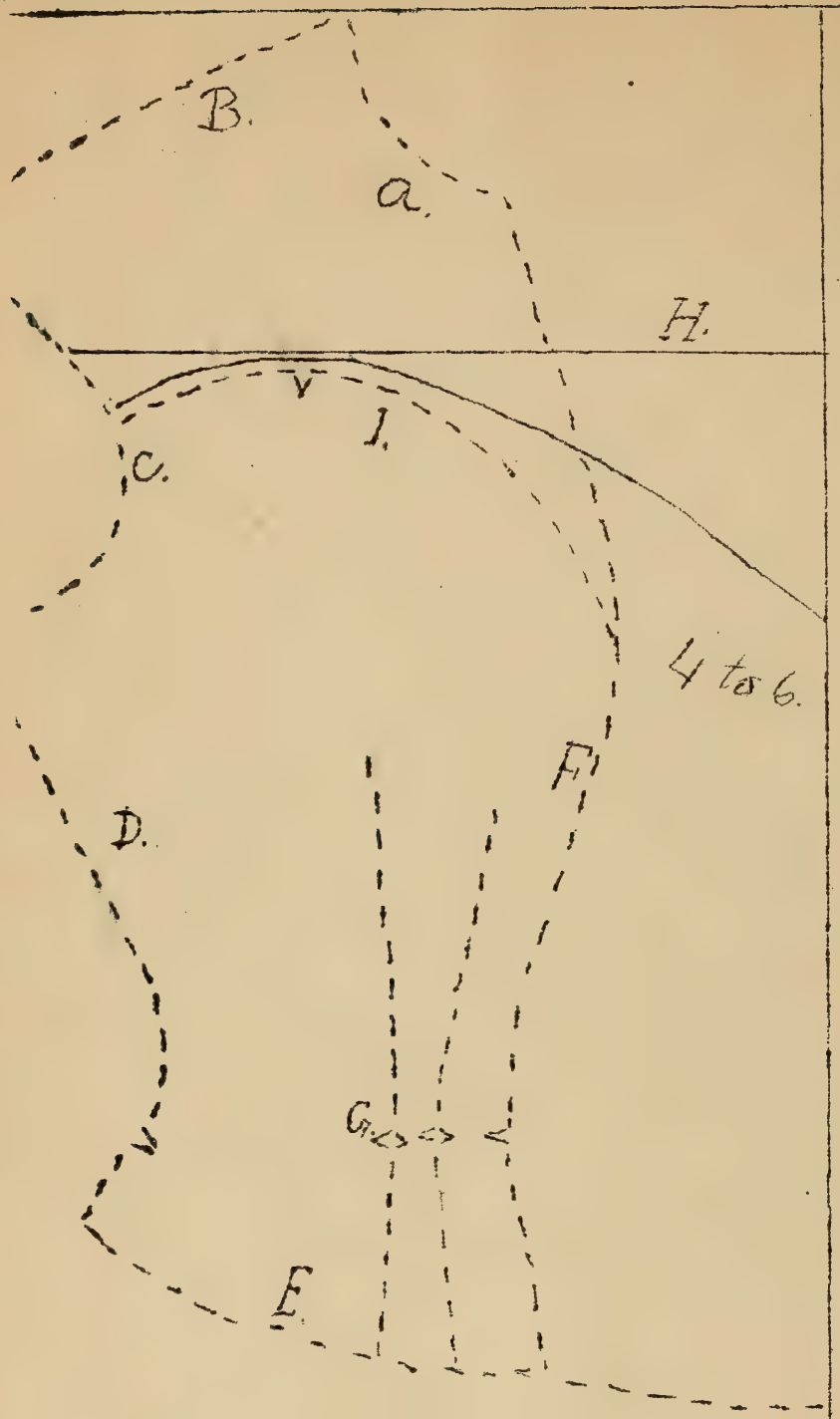
A fuller waist may be full on the shoulders or not. A stout figure looks well with both or no fullness. The waist lining is placed on the material on the shoulder seam on B, is drawn to with the upper edge of the cloth. The less fullness desired the nearer the shoulder seam is placed to the edge of the material. The further from the edge of the cloth the shoulder seam is drawn, the more fullness there will be.

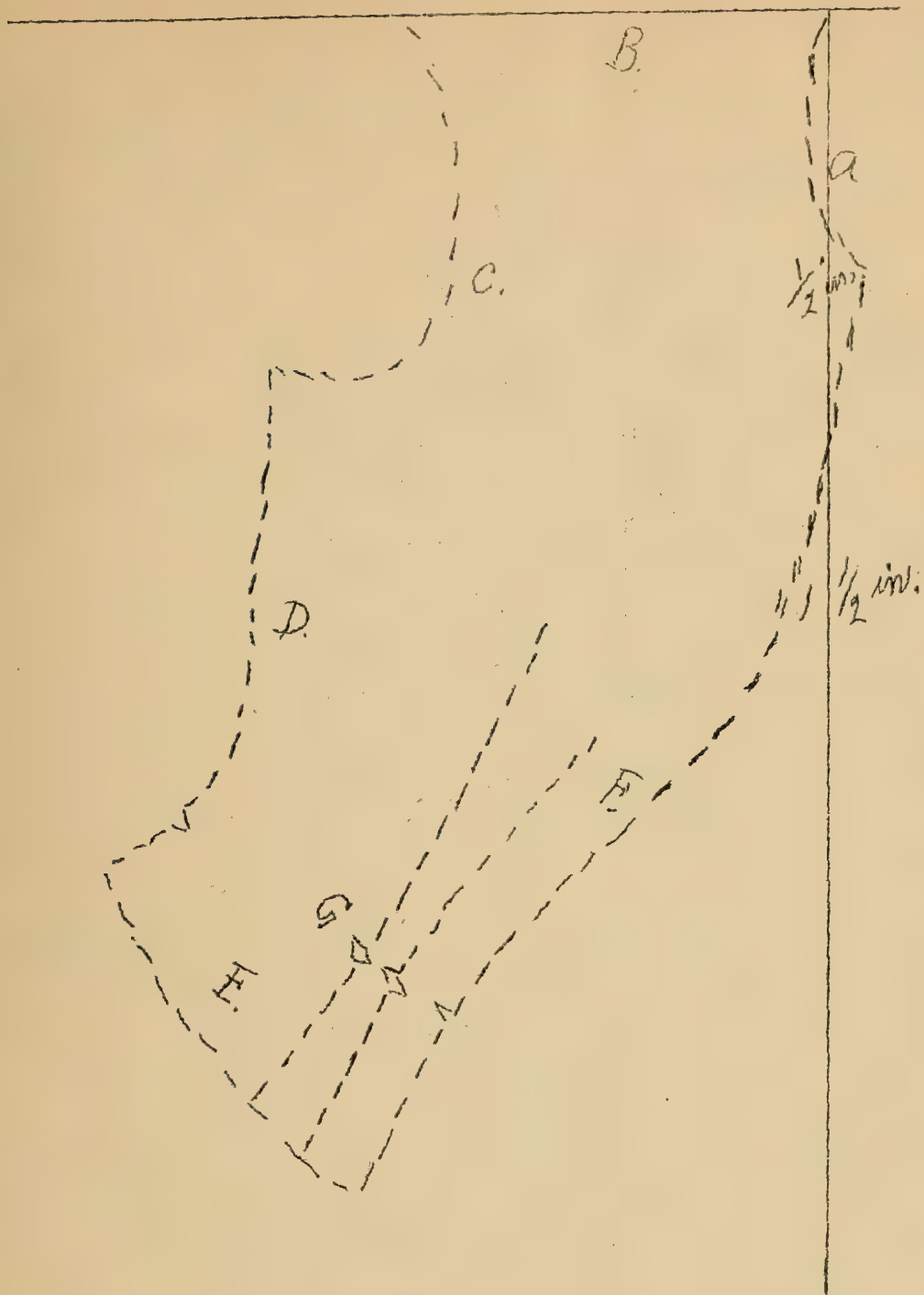
After the lining is placed on the material as desired, and stretched out well across the fullest part of the bust it should be cut on A, B, C, D, and E.

A V shaped space is left at the neck.

Waist Lined all Around the Neck.

The pattern is placed on the material so the upper point of B, is from 2 to 4 inches below the upper edge of the cloth. The shoulder is then continued above B up to the upper edge of the material, the material cut from 4 to 6





inches wider in front. The material is then cut on A, H, C, D, and E.

The back is cut on the same principle with the back seam from 3 to 5 inches from the fold of the cloth, and the shoulder seam the same distance below the upper edge of the cloth as was the front. The shoulder seams of the lining and material are stitched and pressed separately. The outside material is then shirred in even rows, as indicated in diagram, or as far apart as desired, and drawn up to fit the lining after the shoulder seams of lining and material are basted firmly together.

Waist Plain across the Bust, and Full Below.

This waist is best fastened on the shoulder and under the arm.

The upper point of the front form at the neck is placed so as to overlap the fold of the cloth a half an inch, while the fullest part of the bust at the front form should be at least half an inch from the fold of the material. The lower part of the pattern will adjust itself and will be quite a distance from the fold of the material, which allows for the fullness below the bust. Do not forget that the muslin pattern must be stretched out across the bust line to

its fullest extent, regardless of wrinkles in the lining.

The material must then be cut on A, B, C, D, and E.

The back is cut in the same way, placing the neck at the back seam to the fold of the material, with the lower part of the seam at the waist line from 3 to 4 inches from the fold.

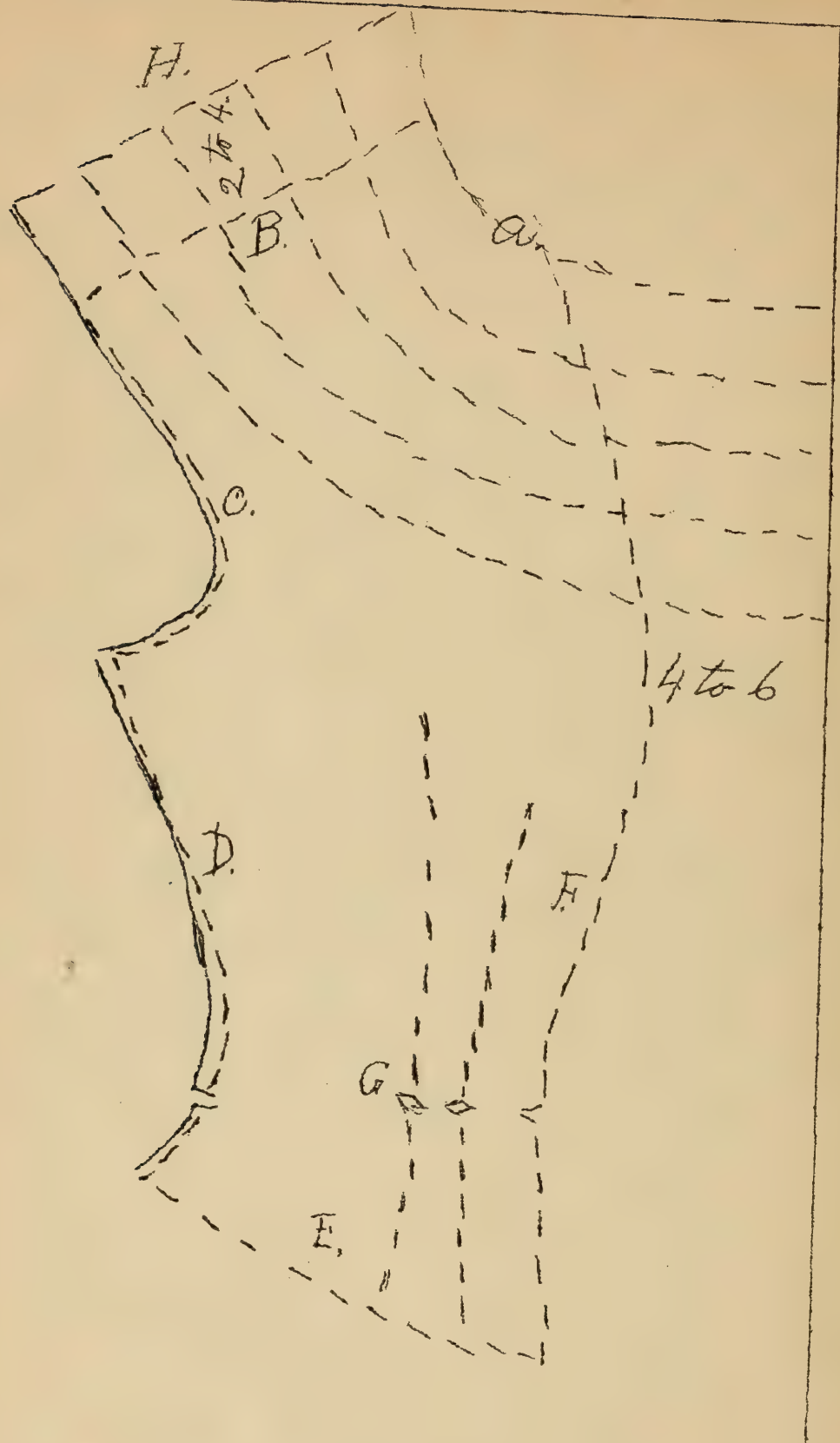
Do not forget that the darts in front are to be basted; also the middle back and curved seams.

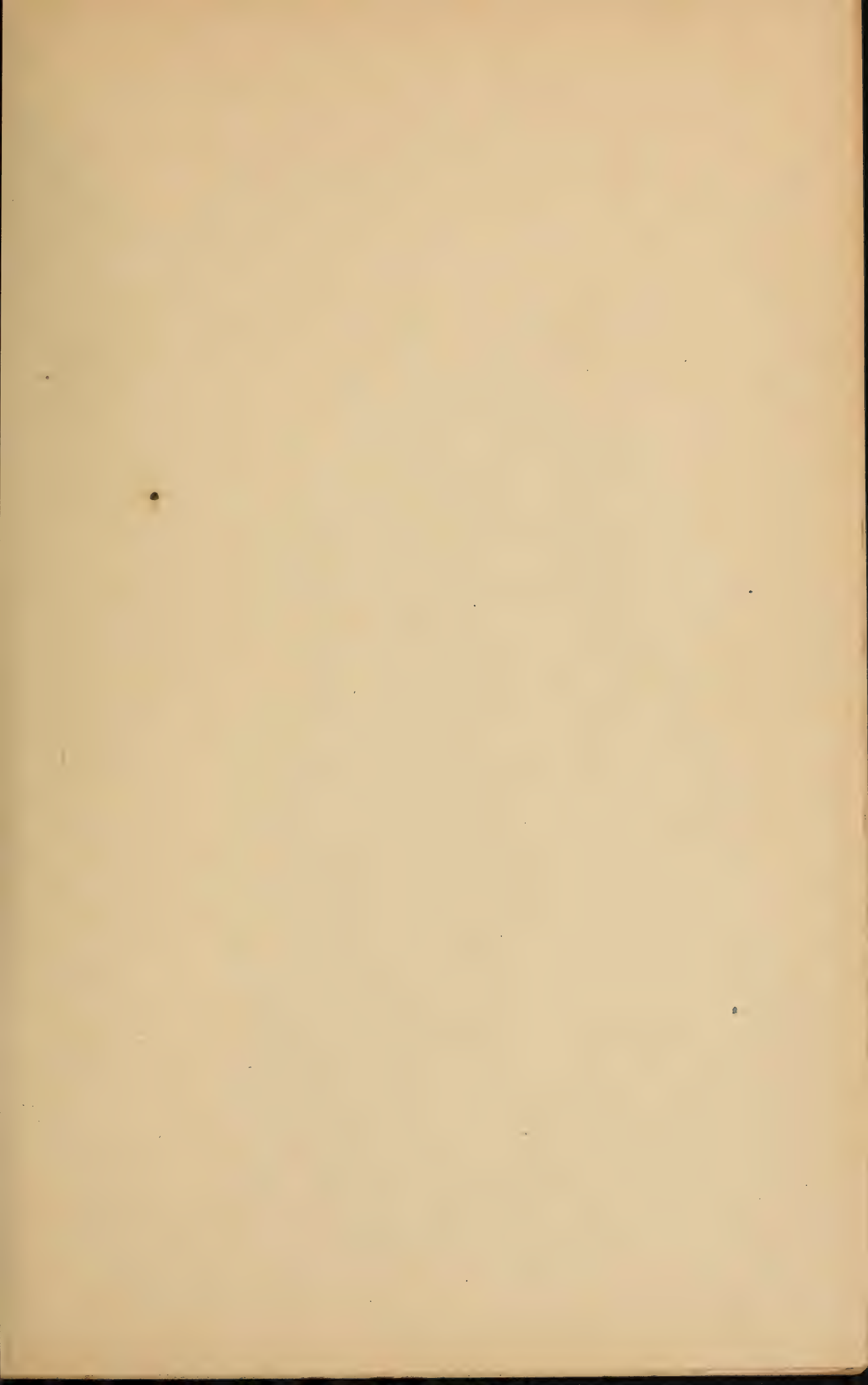
A Stretched Waist.

A stretched waist is cut in the same manner, except the middle back seam should be placed its whole length to the fold of the cloth as nearly as possible.

The front should be cut the same at the neck and bust, it being placed into position and allowing the fullness below, which is taken out under the arms in stretching the material to the lining.

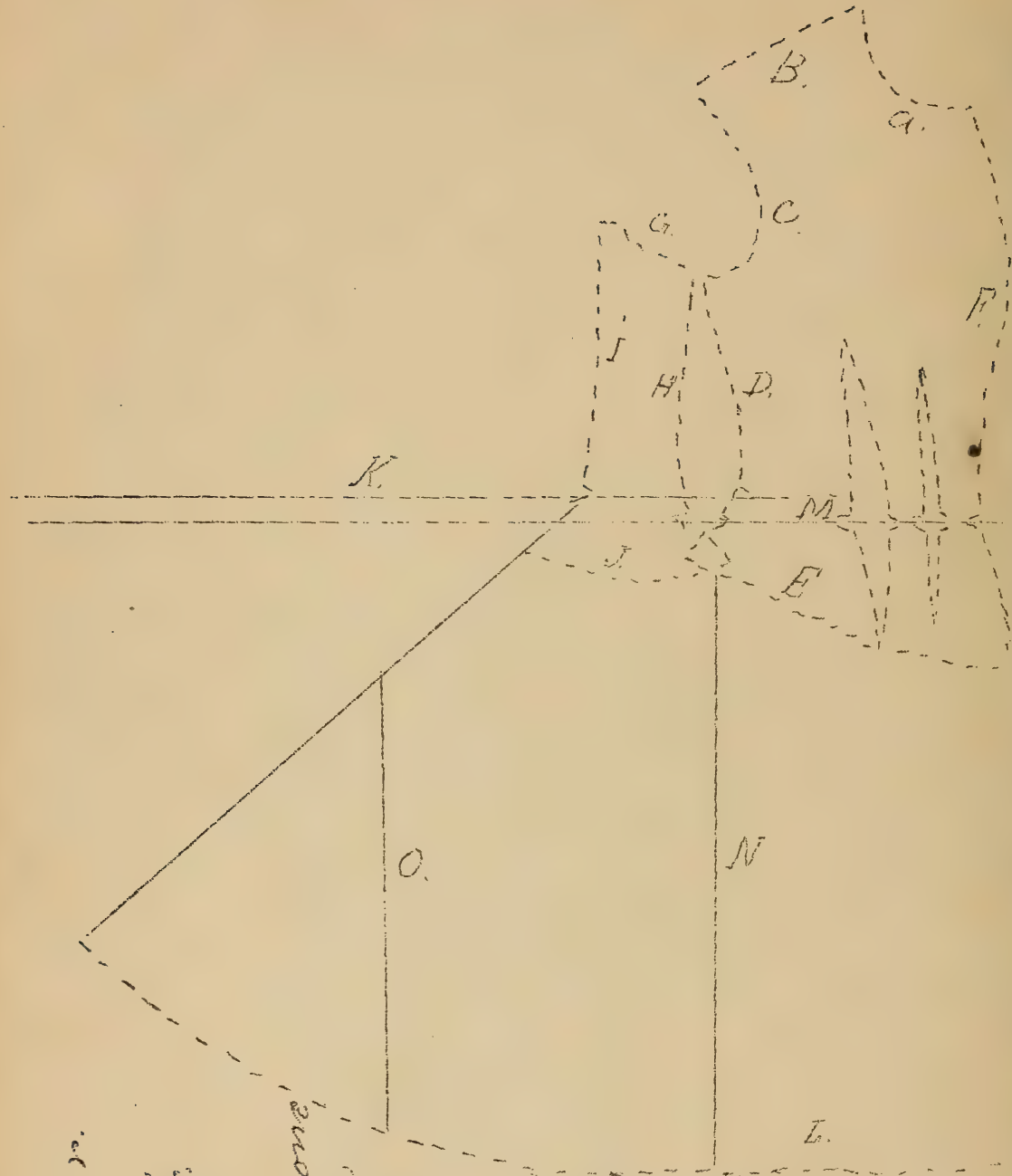
The neck must be cut smaller, as in diagram, as the stretching will make it too large. If this caution is not taken.





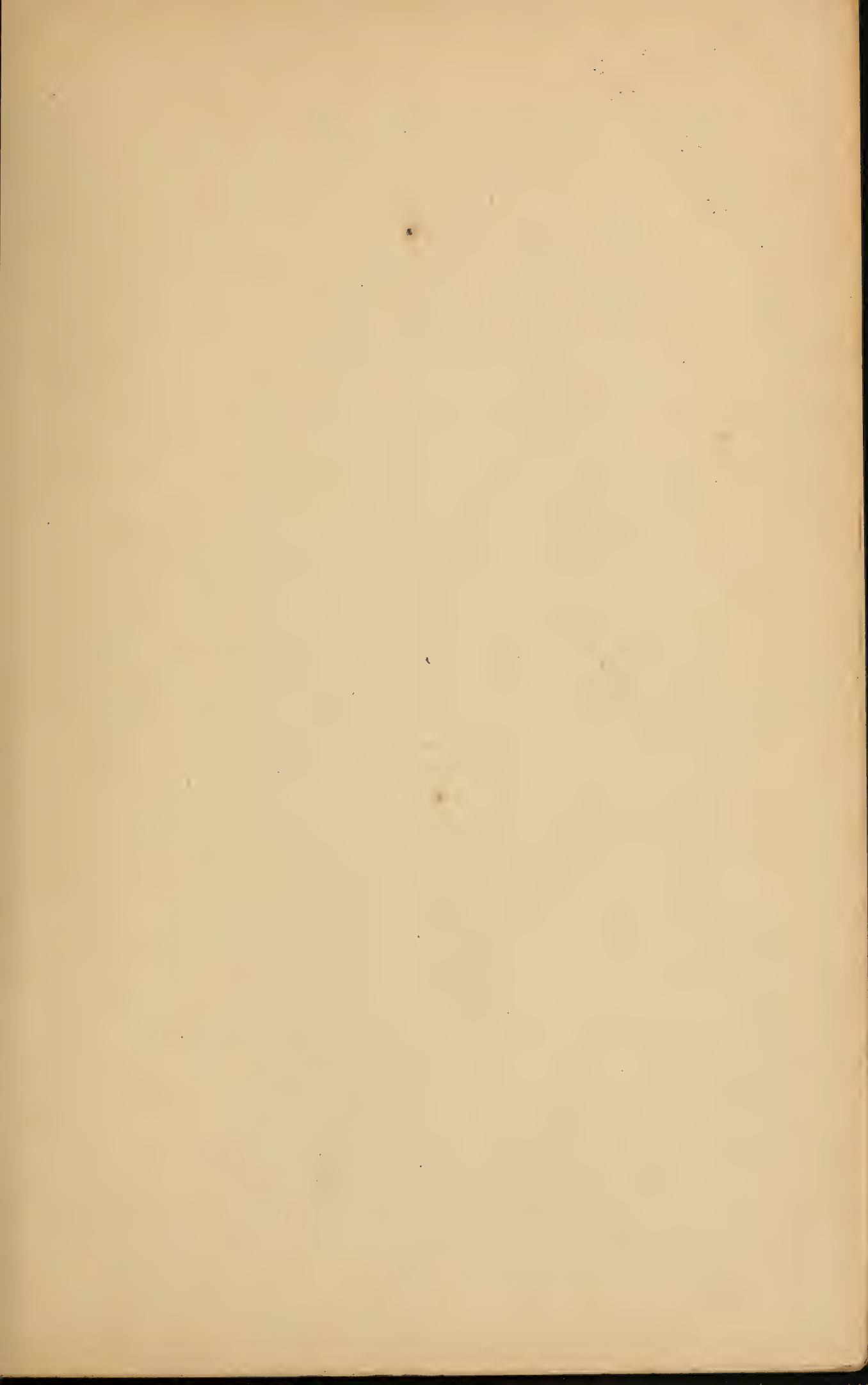
To cut a wrapper.

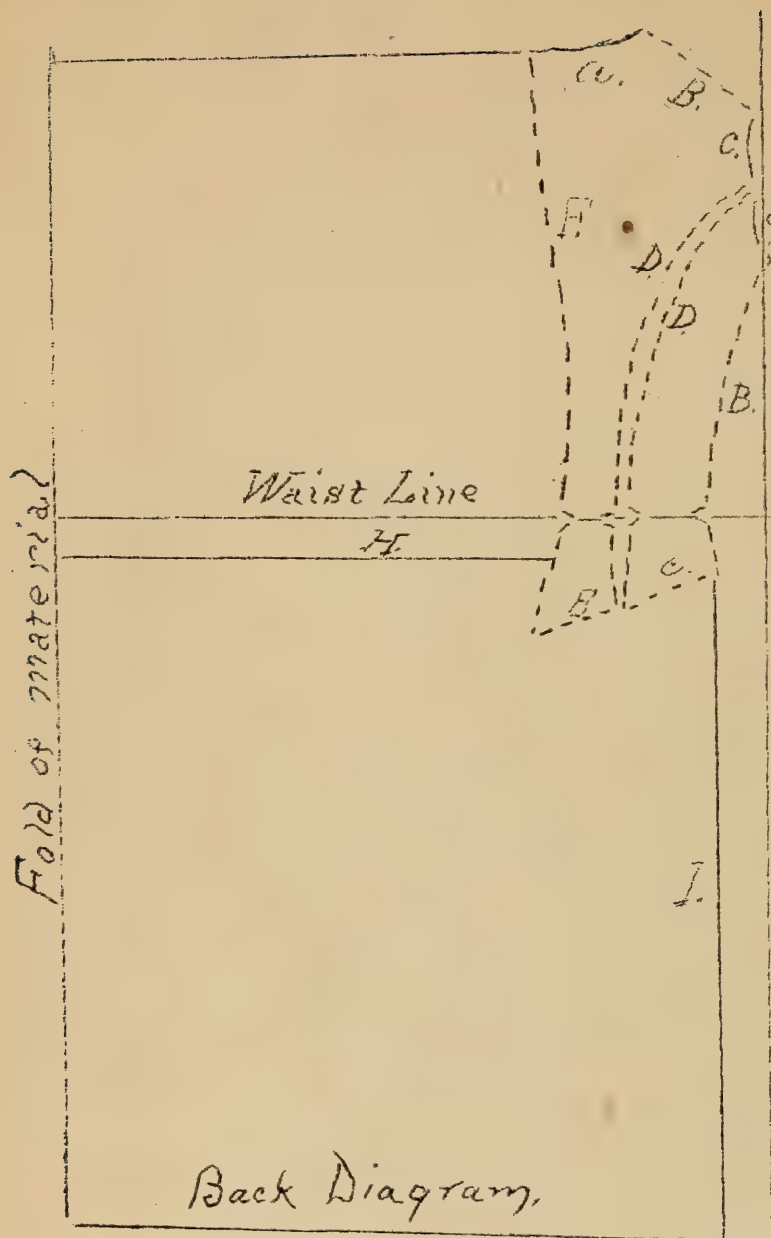
Measure off the longest skirt measure, plus one inch, from an even end of the material, and draw a chalk line across the material at this point. Cut out the lining of the front first. The waist lines of the main body pattern at the darts and the front are placed upon the chalk line at the termination of the skirt length.



The left side of the skirt next to D. will have to be drawn into place, if it is a French skirt until the sides of the back skirt almost meet.

When this is done and the pattern is pinned in place, it will be found that the waist line on D. is higher than the rest of the front waist lines. A new chalk line will then have to be made as far above M as the waist line on D. is above M. This new chalk line is K. The waist lines of the under arm piece is then placed on K, allowing D. and H to cross each other an inch and a half below the waist line, for a person of worth an inch higher, but from two to three inches below for a person of larger hip measure. The space between the front and the under arm piece will form a skirt instead of a seam, and should only be marked with a chalk or tracing wheel, and not cut until after the garment is fitted. It is the only seam in a wrapper that stands the whole length of the wrapper at the same angle as the seam below the waist line of the pattern. The garment is then cut by beginning at L. and cutting on I and G. over to C, then to B. and A. It is the fold of the lining, and is only cut down from the neck far enough to allow an opening, which extends from eight to ten





inches below the waist line. The front for should be traced through to the wrapper lining before must lining is removed which will mark the place for the hood and eyes, or buttons down the front.

A princess is cut in exactly the same manner, but darts one and two need not be cut in the outside material.

If they are basted in the lining first the outside material

may be cut and stretched just as a plain waist, or dart 1 may be omitted and dart 2 may be cut in material. The outside material of a wrapper, may be cut to suit any style as are any of the waists; not forgetting that skirt length is necessary.

A dressing sack is cut on the same principle except the skirt length will be short. A coat of any length is also cut on the

same principle, but one dart is used, which should be dart 2, and H and D may terminate in a seam, the length of the garment. If in cutting any of these garments the material is too narrow to cut the whole front, it may be pieced anywhere between F and I, as indicated by lines N and O.

To cut the back of a wrapper,

The longest skirt length, plus one inch, is measured from an even end of the cloth, and a chalk line is drawn across the material, forming a waist line. The waist-line of the curved back piece is first placed on the chalk waist-line of the material, the upper part of B touching the selvedge edges of the cloth. The waist-line of the back is then placed on the chalk line of the material as close to the curved piece as possible, as the space between these two pieces forms only a dart, and if placed too far apart will cause the dart to be too long. If pleats are desired between these two points below the waist-line, they must be placed from 8 to 10 inches apart and cut as the lining pattern an inch and a half below the waist line; then straight across between the two seams but as pleats are not worn now except below the center of the back seam, treat-

-this seam as a dart as in diagram. In cutting this back, commence at upper point of B, and only cut material as the lining pattern from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 in. below the waist line, from this point right down straight on I, regardless of the narrow strip which it will be necessary to cut off. If the seam slants to the selvedge, several inches below, as would seem most natural, there will always be an unnecessary roll, or pucker, over the hips at this seam, & while cutting down straight, as described, helps it to fit smoothly over the hips in the back. After finishing B, commence on H and cut down between the curved and back piece, which is D, not more than $1\frac{1}{2}$ or a half inches below the waist line, as the dart does not add to the appearance of the back if too long;

Begin again and cut C of the middle and then B and A. and down F, from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 inches below the waist line; then cut straight across on line H, which will make the fulness for the pleats in the back. These pleats should form a double or triple box-pleat on the wrong side, the inside edges must not only be even, but the upper edge on the wrong side but must come together perfectly even at the back seam. To give a proper effect on the right side. If a plain back is desired the material should be cut

like the lining, but if lining or out-
le material is narrower than desired it may
cut open down the center of the back, and
part of a breadth inserted. If the gown is
have rattleau pleat in the back, the material
cut just as the plain wrapper, until F is
reached, then instead of cutting F, H is cut
straight across the cloth. The rattleau may
be the ordinary box pleat, or it may be
rived.

Empire Gowns.

The waist of an Empire gown should be cut
any waist, except the lining may be cut 4 in.
on the waist line, very evenly, as the lower edge
each separate part must be considered the waist
line, and should be basted evenly from the lower
edge. The outside material may be cut any
style desired. The skirt must be cut 4 in
longer than the longest measure, and may be
according to the prevailing style. It should
be fitted on the same principle as any skirt,
but the seams should be taken up in short
fashion so as to fit the form at the
waist, not tight, but enough to show the
outline of the figure. Instead of coming
down straight in Mother Hubbard fashion.
A full puff is the most becoming sleeve
for this gown; the length of the puff should
be even with the short waist.

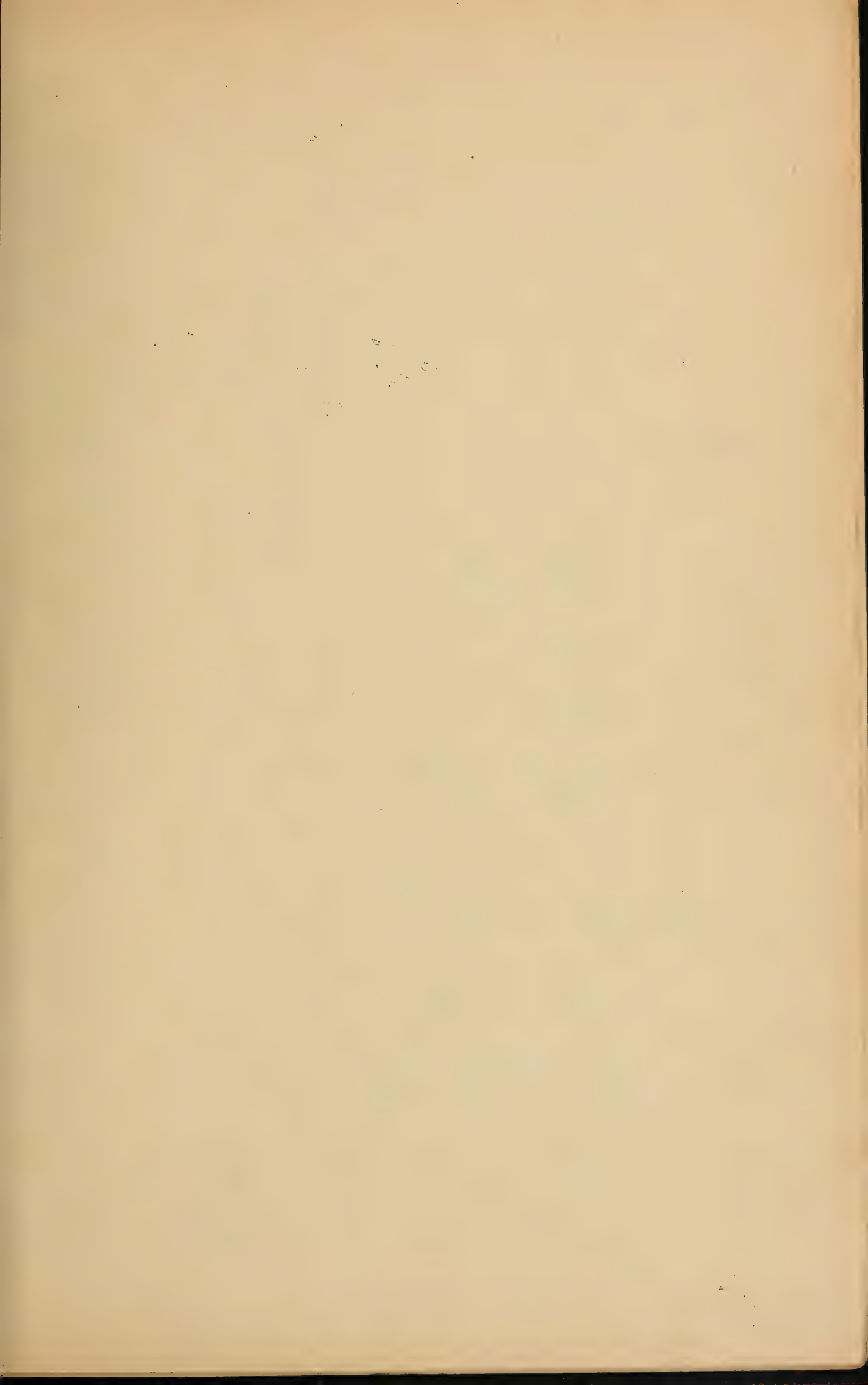


Fig. 1.

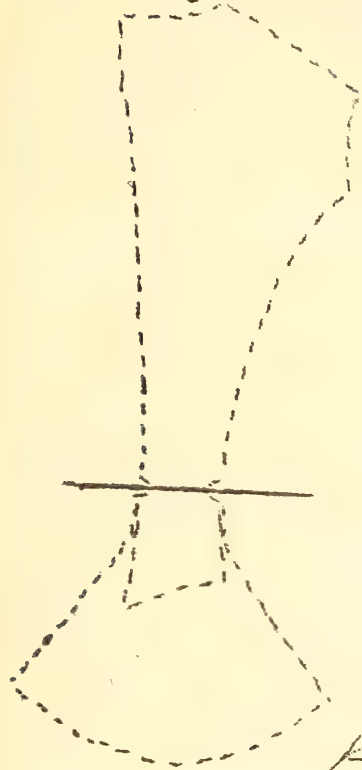
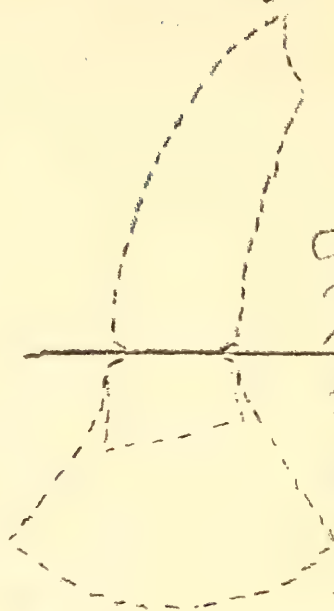


Fig. 2. Coats and Garments that flare below the waist.



In cutting a garment whether princess, wrapper or coat, with a flaring skirt, the front is cut just as a wrapper, with seam H and D, forming an under arm dart.

Dart 2 is drawn together as the pattern lining is placed on lining or material. All the seams, before allowing the fulness at the bottom, are cut as the lining pattern from 1 and a half to 2 inches below the waist line.

Begin with seam I of Front

Diagram. The material should be cut as the waist pattern lining, one and a half or three inches below the waist line, and widened from this point. If the garment is full length allow the seams 10 inches wider at the lower edge. If the garment is half length 6 or 8 inches. For garments cut 10 inches below the waist, or less, 4 inches will be enough.

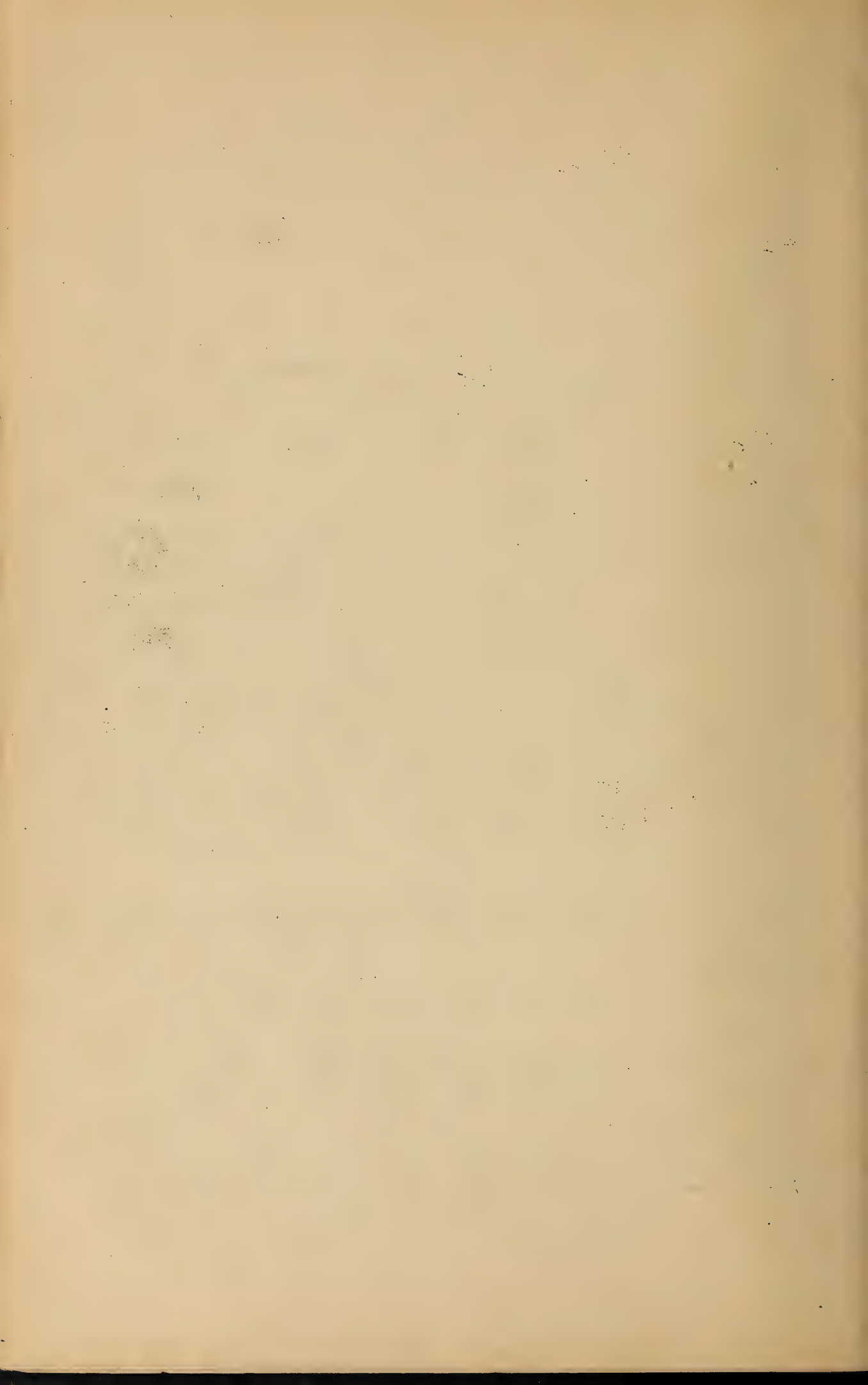
The material for the back curved

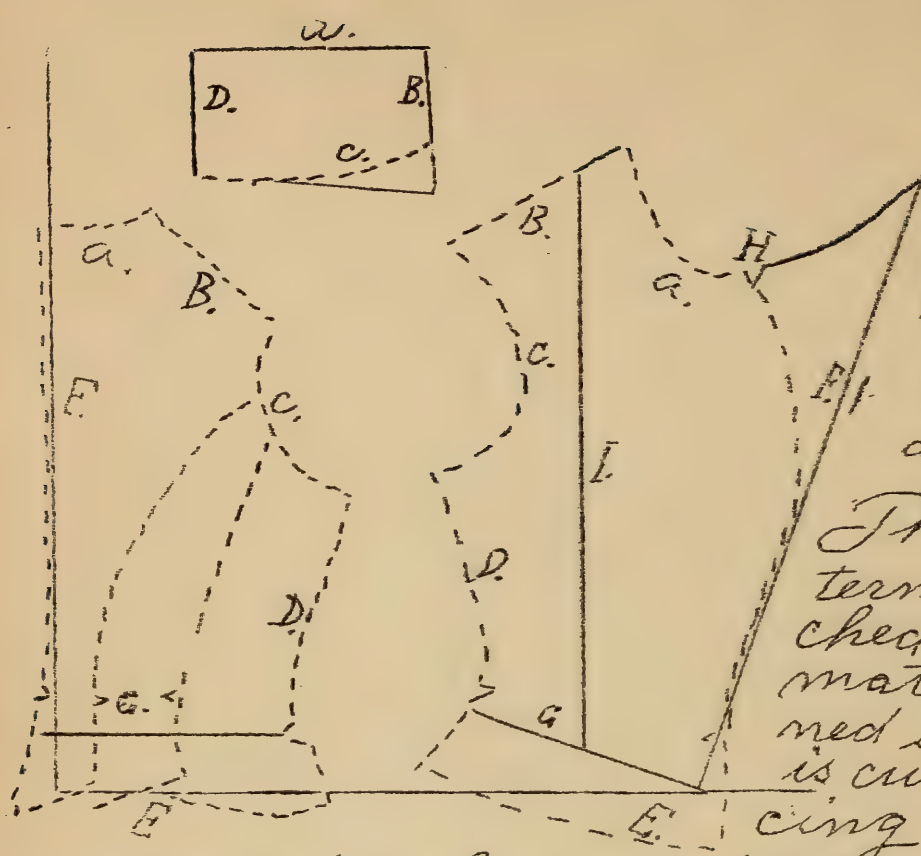
pieces, as Fig. 2, and middle back pieces as Fig. 1., should be cut as the pattern an inch below the waist lines; from which points fulness is allowed to the seams at the lower edges as was allowed to the fronts in proportion to the difference in the lengths.

It is always best to decide on the skirt length of a garment and draw a chalk line across the material as many inches from the straight end of the cloth as desired, plus 2 inches, as coats never come up to the expectation in length unless this is done. Then place the waist lines of the different parts of the pattern on the waist lines lines of the material as in cutting a wrapper. Only cutting each piece separately, as described for garments with flaring skirts.

Back and Front of Eton Jacket with Revers.

First the seams of the back of the muslin are basted, including the front under arm piece, which is joined to the back instead of the front. The darts of the front is





are also bas-
ted. For the
back, the cen-
of the back is
placed to the
fold of the
material, not
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The lining pat-
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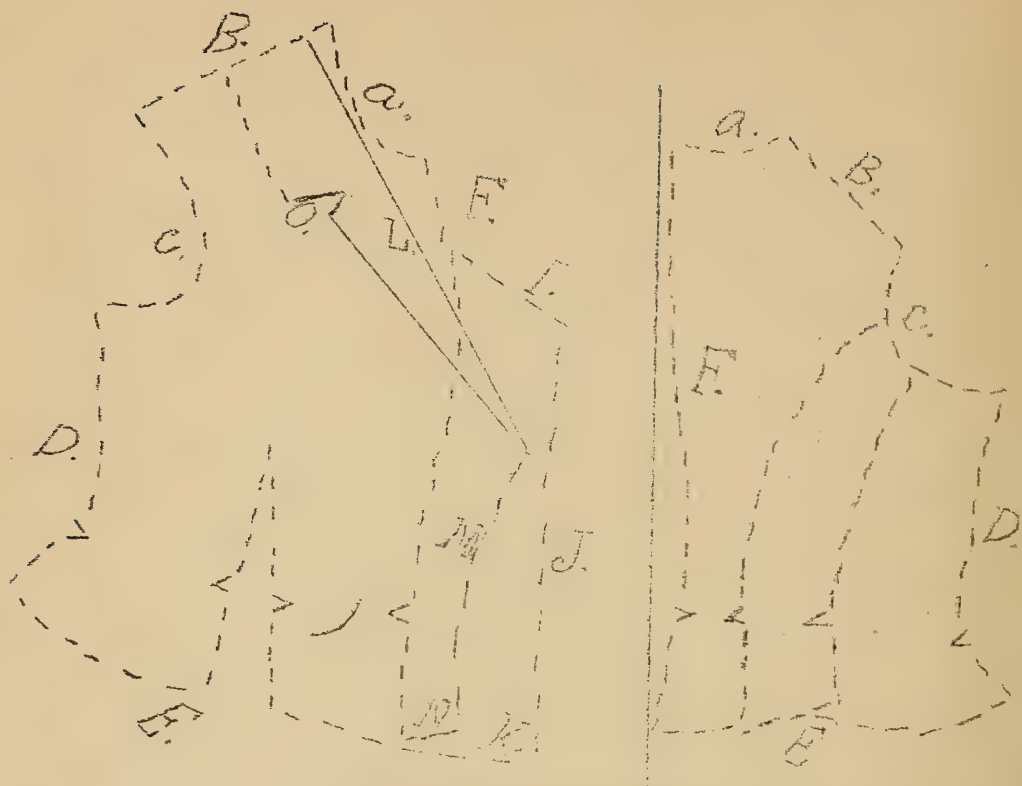
cing on G, which is
the waist line of the pattern and also
the waist line of the jacket. From
G cut to D, C, B, and a, but not F, which is
the fold of the cloth and the center of the
back. The front is cut by placing the
lining on the material and stretching
very tight across the bust in spite of
wrinkles, so that the front form is
from four to five inches back from
the straight edge of the cloth. It is
cut by commencing at G, which is the
waist line, and also the lower edge of
the cloth. From G cut up to F, which
should extend from the front form
at the waist line in a straight line to
upper right hand corner of material,
a little above the shoulder seam, or

B, from this point H is cut from upper point of F to the center of a, or neck, then on B, C, and D, extending more than a seam below the waist line to G.

The rolling collar for the back of the neck, is cut to fit between points H across the back, but the jacket should be fitted before the space can be measured between the points. D. is the center of the back of the collar and should be cut on the fold of the cloth. The dotted line C is the side that is sewed to the neck of the jacket. A rolls over, while B is one of the ends that helps to give the slashed effect in front of the shoulder seam where the front never joins the collar. it should be cut out of paper first and held up to the neck of the person and adjusted to the neck of the jacket, to avoid mistakes.

Cutting a Vest.

A vest is made with the last dart cut in the material. The first dart is basted in the lining pattern; the last dart left open. It is placed on the material and cut like the lining pattern, except G, which should terminate in lines I, J, and K, as in cut.



for the double breasted front. The front form should be marked on the material in its usual place with a thread, as it will help to bring the fronts together properly while fitting.

The collar should be cut as a reverse, after the shoulder seams of the pattern lining are basted together.

There may be a seam at the center of the back, but none at the little "jog" in the front at C. The collar back of C. should be from $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 inch narrower than the front, its width never to be more $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 inches. Front of C. the collar tapers to a sharp point of and extends to the extreme end of

the double breasted front.

All double breasted fronts are cut as are vest fronts. In cutting whether jacket or waist, if closed across the bust to the neck, the neck should not be cut out full size but should be smaller as the fitting is sure to stretch it. Even then it will be necessary in most cases to take up a small dart at the center of the front of the neck, which is allowable.

To Cut a Short Waist.

Cut the yoke first. As there is generally no shoulder seam, baste the shoulder seams of back and front of lining pattern together, then cut the yoke according to the prevailing style.

Cut lower part of waist to fit yoke back and front, and join as any loose fitting waist, not forgetting that a box pleat is made down the right side of the front.

The middle back, curved piece, and under arm piece are basted together before placing the pattern on the material for cutting.

Chemisettes

A chemisette may be cut as in diagram, D is the fold of the cloth, which



must be left straight and not shaped as the front form. B is half of width of lower edge, which should not be less than three inches in all. It is then cut on A, B, C and E to D, which is the center of the front and is not cut.

The back pieces are cut from the upper part of back lining. D is the shoulder seam and should

be stitched to B on the front shoulder. a is the neck and B the center of the back where the opening should be.

A collar may be made and fastened to the neck, which should also open in the back. Tapes long enough to go around the body and fasten in the front should be fastened to each side of the back at X; and one or two loops should be fastened to the front, or E.

When the chemisette is adjusted to the person, the tapes are crossed in the back, and brought h around in front, and drawn through

the loops in front.

A chemisette made be made plain full, tuckered, shirred, pleated or any style desired.

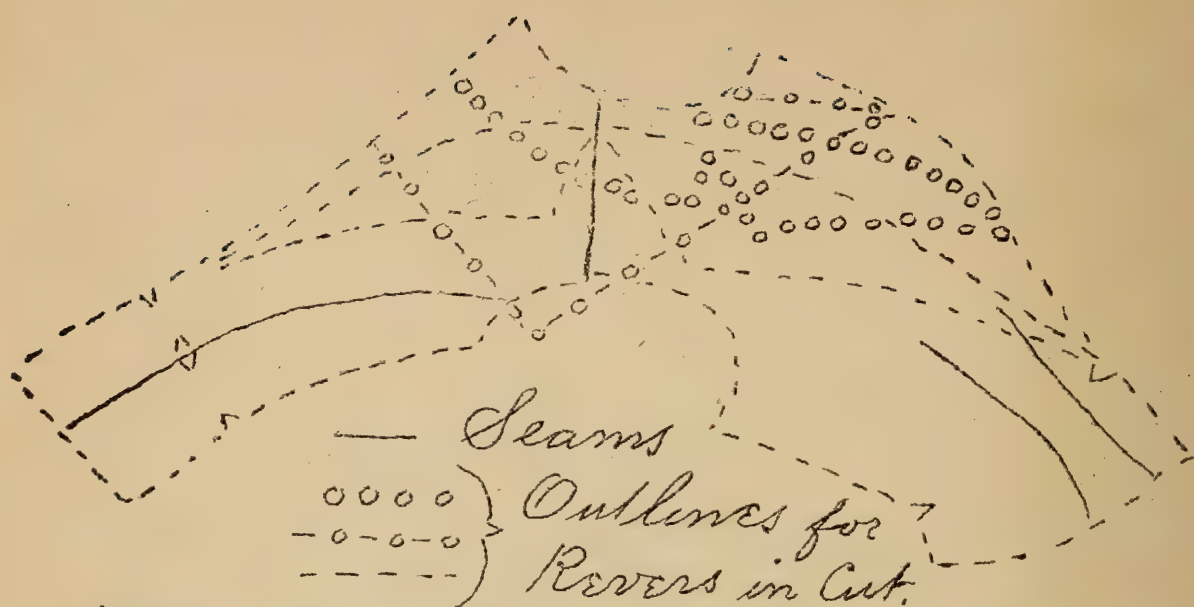
To Shirr A Yoke or Waist
Lengthwise.

Cut the material two or three inches wider than the space to be covered, and from twice to three times as long. If the material is soft and light it must be quite full; if heavy, it will not require so much fullness. The material thus cut may be shirred in lengthwise rows the desired distance apart.

The shirring is then drawn up the longest length to be covered, and basted in position to the lining and sewed down on the shirring by hand. It is then cut the shape of the garment.

To Cut Revers.

Baste the shoulder seams of back and front of pattern lining together when an outline of the whole may be made on a large piece of paper, just as in diagram. The shoulder



seams should be marked in the proper place. The revers may be then outlined on the paper. Do not forget that the darts in the front must be basted and the middle and curved seams in the back. The outlines of the revers can then be drawn as in diagram.

After the desired shape is outlined on the pattern, the revers must be cut at least an inch longer back and front and then to be fitted to the form of the person it is made for, to be sure they are the right size before the material is cut.

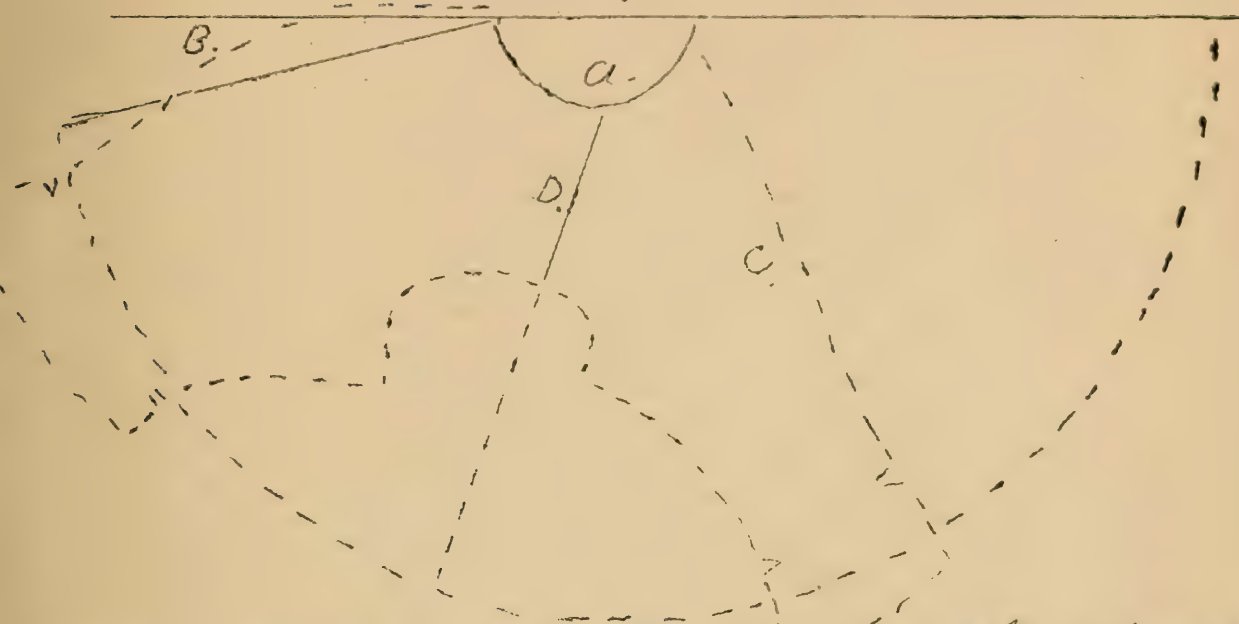
Any collar or revers that fits over the shoulders or waist, may be cut in this manner.

To Cut a Cape.

A cape may be cut from a waist pattern by basting the back and front shoulder seams together of one half of the lining.

If the material is too narrow to cut the cape without piecing, it should be pieced in the back.

Fold of Cloth.



Place the front of the neck to the straight edge of the cloth, so the front form is even with the fold of the material down to the fullest part of the bust, leaving the back of the neck from one to two inches from the fold of the cloth.

It is necessary to make the neck larger, as the cape is always worn over some other garment.

The length of the front is decided upon first; the length over the shoulder seam or D. is two inches longer than the front length.

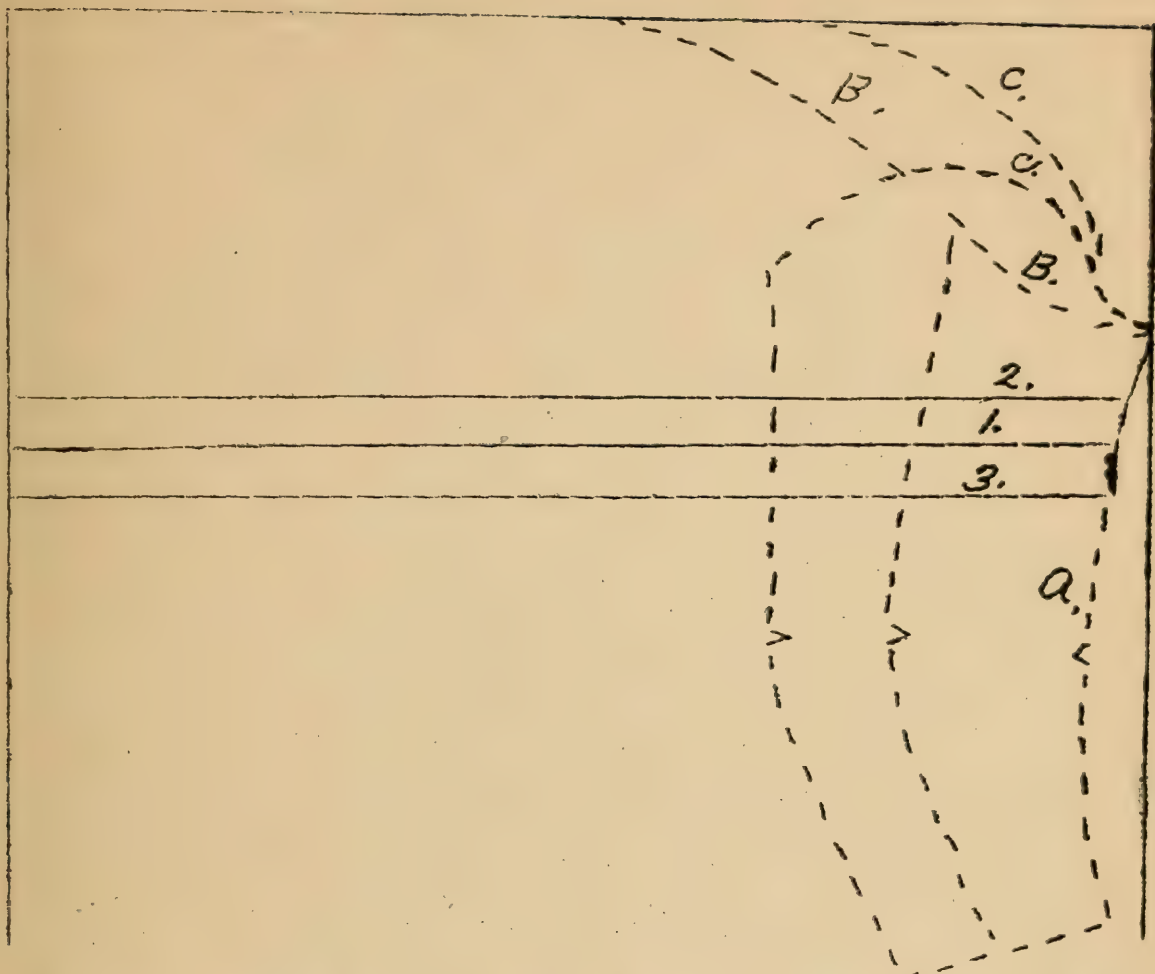
The length of back, or line C. is $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches longer than front measure after measuring the length from the neck, connect the points with a curve.

Sleeves.

A Full Puff.

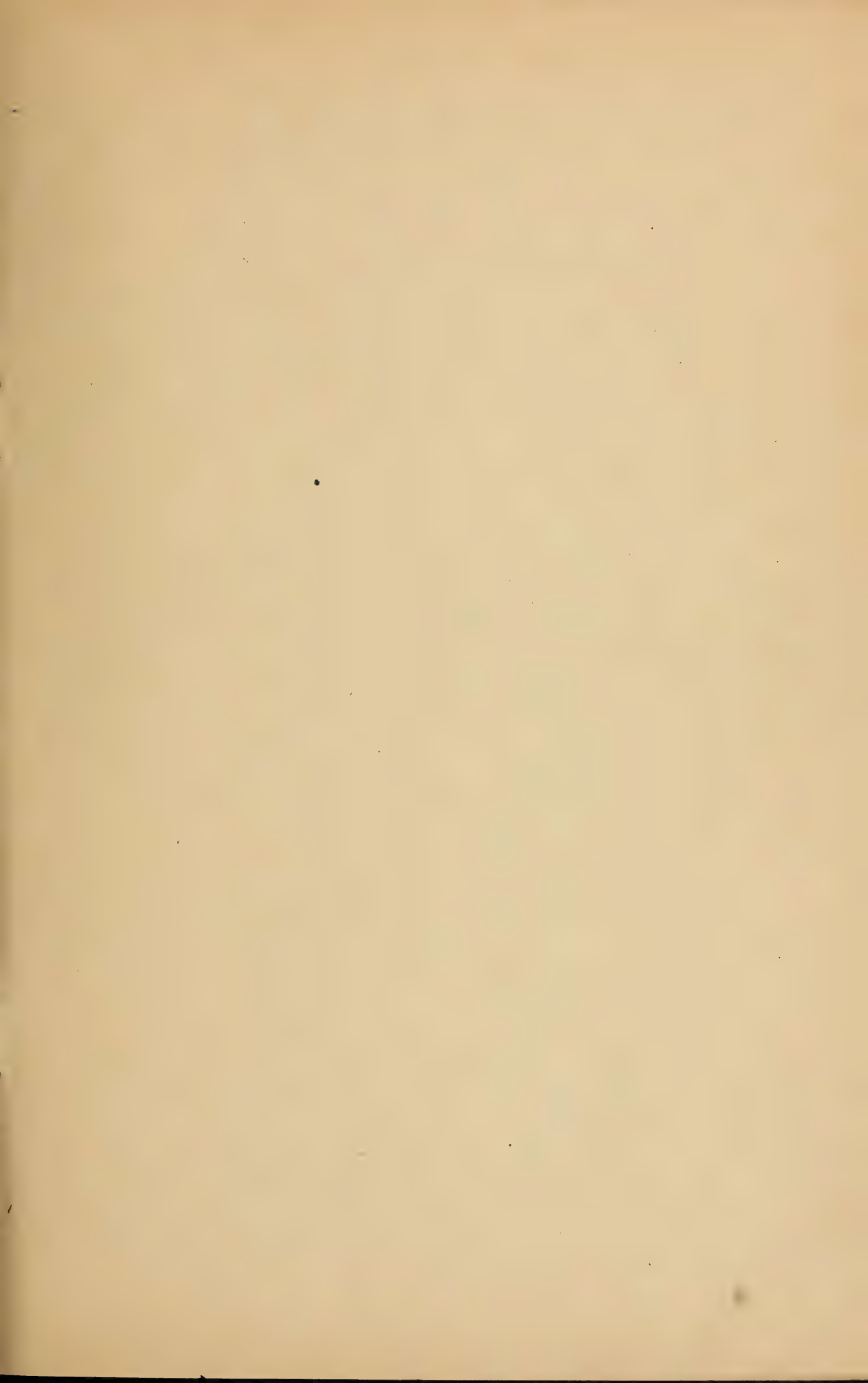
The width of material for a puffed sleeve should average from 36 to 40 inches.

Place the front seams of the lining together at the elbow lines, the under half next to the material; the upper edge of the upper half of the sleeve, which is C, 5 or 6 inches from the straight upper edge of the material; the upper point of a seven with the selvedge edges of the material. Cut both layers of cloth on a as far down as the desired length of the puff. In allowing for the length, it is best to allow a fall of two or three inches, so if the puff is to fall to line one when finished, it must be sewed on the foundation sleeve two or three inches above that point. Line 1 is the length of the puff when finished. Line two is where the puff is sewed to the foundation sleeve, while line three is the length it should be cut. If a sleeve is to have a fall of two inches, it should be cut four inches below where it is



to be sewed to the foundation sleeve and so on with any amount. The lower part of the sleeve, or 3, is cut straight across the material after a has been cut.

For the under half of the sleeve at the top cut one layer of cloth, not both layers, just like the upper part of the under half of the sleeve, which is B, and then round off gradually to the upper cut, c of the cloth, finishing B, as in the diagram. Mark these lines with chalk before cutting. For the upper half of the sleeve, mark and cut the other layer of the material as C, one third the distance between a, and the highest point



of the sleeve, from there curve to the straight edge of the material, finishing C. Try as nearly as possible to imitate curves in Diagram

A Bishop Sleeve.

The bishop sleeve is a long puff. Its entire width should average from 25 to 36 inches. It may be finished with a narrow band at the wrist, or is often cut long enough to shirr with a heading below.

Another form of Bishop sleeve has neither band or shirring, but is cut the desired length and faced from 3 to 5 inches deep, and is pleated into a double or treble box pleat in the back, which is fastened at the depth of the facing, where the back seam of the sleeve would be on the lining.

This sleeve may have a foundation lining or not at desired.

A Double Puff.

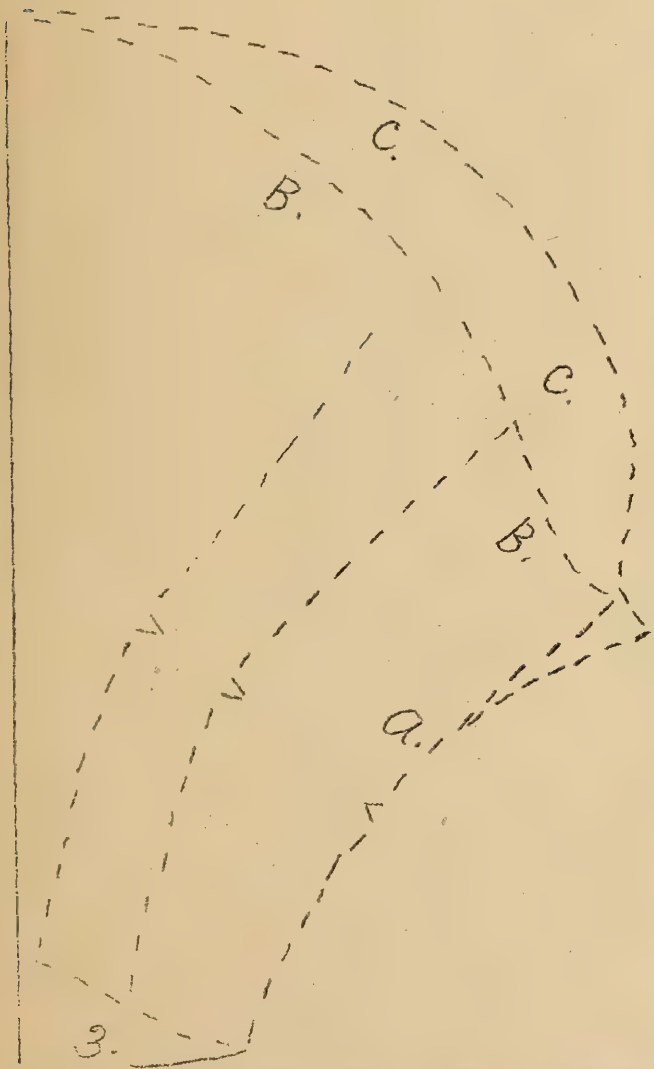
The material is cut long enough to allow two falls, from two to four inches each, it being made as full as a short puff.

Line 3 always designates the lower edge of the sleeve. A shirring is run around the sleeve, half way between 3 and the highest point of the sleeve, if the puffs are to be the same size; if not, wherever it is desired. Line 3 is first joined to the foundation sleeve and the shirring above 3 is

fastened to the foundation sleeve where desired.

Ruffles on Sleeves.

The upper edge of a top ruffle for a sleeve, must be cut as lines B, and C. of a puffed sleeve, also, line A. All other ruffles are cut perfectly straight.



A Shirt Waist Sleeve.

Is cut as a bishop sleeve, but the pattern should be placed on the material, so as to allow less fullness at the hand below the elbow as in diagram. The highest point of the upper half of the sleeve, should be from 7 to 10 inches below the straight edge of the material. A is cut through both thicknesses of the material, B and C, are curved up to the straight edge of the cloth.

as in cutting puffed sleeve.

If the diagram is carefully noticed, it will be seen that the sleeve is very wide above the elbow. The lining pattern is arranged on the material as

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